

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CPR-01 /015 R

DRAFTED BY L/M:HSAMWELL:SO
APPROVED BY ARA/APU:CEBARTCH
S/CPR:MKEATING
ARA/MGT:DLINVILLE

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R 111453Z JUN 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

UNCLAS STATE 135964

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, PA

SUBJECT: NEW CUSTOMS DUTIES

REF: ASUNCION 1832

1. REFTEL REQUESTED DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON MANNER OF PROCEEDING IN FACE OF NEW CHARGES BEING PLACED BY GOP ON ARTICLES IMPORTED BY DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND THEIR PERSONNEL.

2. DEPARTMENT ASSUMES THAT DIPLOMATIC NOTE REQUESTING SUSPENSION OF CHARGES HAS BEEN DELIVERED AND NO FAVORABLE RESPONSE HAS BEEN RECEIVED. NEVERTHELESS, DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN EMBASSY'S PARTICIPATION IN JOINT DIPLOMATIC CORPS PROTEST BASED UPON ARTICLE 36 OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WHICH IS IN FORCE BETWEEN U.S. AND PARAGUAY. IN DEPARTMENT'S VIEW, NEW CHARGES REPRESENT EFFORT TO INCREASE TAX REVENUES AND DO NOT FIT WITHIN THE CATEGORY OF "STORAGE, CARTAGE AND SIMILAR SERVICES."

3. IN ADDITION TO NOTING ARTICLE 36 OF VIENNA CONVENTION, EMBASSY MAY WISH TO CITE ARTICLE 47 AS A BASIS FOR THE USG TAKING MEASURES ON THIS END TO WITHDRAW CUSTOMS-FREE ENTRY
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PRIVILEGE ENJOYED BY THE GOP.

4. WITH REGARD TO STORAGE CHARGES ON ARTICLES IN TRANSIT,
EMBASSY RECOMMENDED TO TAKE POSITION THAT SUCH LIABILITY

HAS BEEN INCURRED INVOLUNTARILY AS A RESULT OF THE SUB-
JECT LEGAL DISPUTE AND THAT USG THUS REGARDS ITSELF AS
EXEMPT FROM PAYMENT.

5. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO BRING DEPARTMENT UP TO DATE ON
ANY DEVELOPMENTS SINCE DATE OF REFTEL SO THAT DEPARTMENT
MAY RECOMMEND FURTHER STEPS IN LIGHT OF CURRENT SITUATION.
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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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